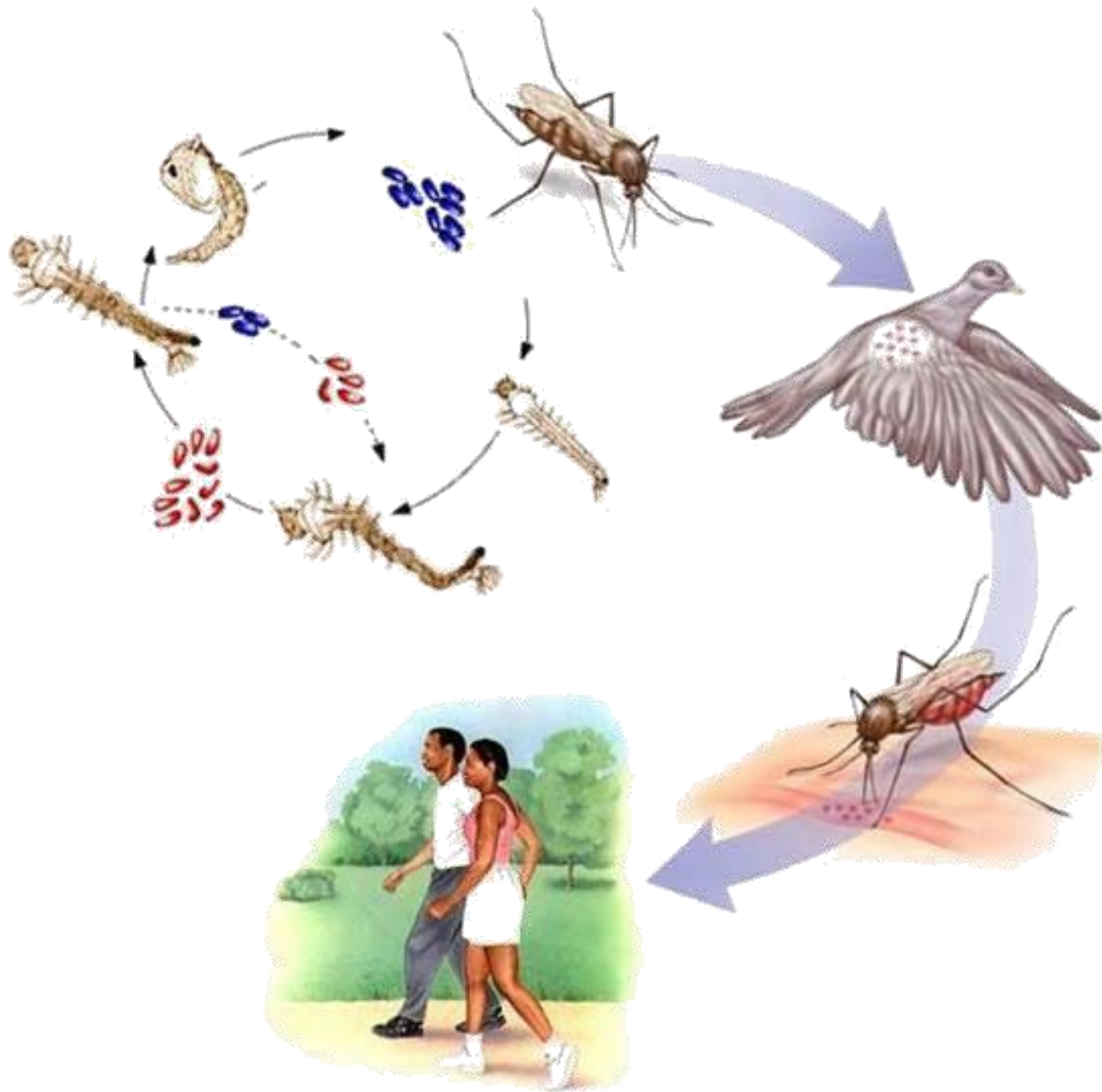


FLORIDA MOSQUITO CONTROL

Public Health Training and Certification



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED, Commissioner
The Capitol • Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800

Public Health Pest Control (PHPC) License

License requirements: In accordance with F.A.C. Chapter 5E-13.040, all persons who apply or supervise the application of a pesticide intended to control arthropods on property other than their own individual residential or agricultural property must be licensed to do so or work under the supervision of a licensed applicator.

The PHPC license is issued by the Mosquito Control Section in the Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement (BLE).

The PHPC license is required whether pesticides applied are restricted use or for general use. This category includes public applicators using or supervising the use of ground applications to control mosquitoes, midges, sand flies, dog flies, yellow flies, or other biting flies, etc, as well as aquatic insecticide applications to control aquatic stages of public health pests (larviciding). Application of restricted use aquatic herbicides for plant control or removal requires an Aquatic license issued by the Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement, under F.S. Chapter 487.

Compliance: Pesticide applications must be accurately recorded and kept on file for a minimum of 3 years, per Section 5E-13.040(8). Other criteria for safety training, worker protection, and justification for adulticide applications are spelled out in Chapter 5E-13 F.A.C. License holders are responsible for understanding and complying with all their requirements under the law.

Examinations: In order to obtain the PHPC license, applicants must pass two exams administered by the Department with a score of 70% or above. These are the General Standards (Core) and the Public Health Pest Control exams. There are no fees to take the exams; however, applicants will need to show a valid photo I.D. such as a driver's license in order to take the exams. Exams may be taken at local county extension offices, at the BLE office in Tallahassee, or at regional training workshops. Prospective applicants should contact our office prior to examination to ensure they meet all requirements and have the appropriate study material.

Exam scores are *not* given over the phone; notification letters and

licenses are mailed directly to the applicant. Please allow 2-3 weeks for processing of exams and licenses.

Study materials: The Public Health Pest Control study manual is available free of charge through our office. The study manual for the Core exam, *Applying Pesticides Correctly*, may be purchased through the UF/IFAS Education Resources Bookstore, or from the Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA).

Core Exam Exemptions: The only applicants exempt from taking the Core exam are those who have either passed the Core within the past 1 year, or hold a valid license issued through the Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement, under F.S. Chapter 487 or F.S. Chapter 482 as a Pest Control Operator or a Special Fumigation ID card holder.

Contact and Employment Information: PHPC licenses will not be issued without complete and accurate contact and employment information. License holders must keep their contact and employment information updated and accurate with our office. Failure to do so will result in inactivation of the license.

Continuing Education: In order to maintain a valid license in compliance with Chapter 5E-13 F.A.C., license holders must obtain continuing education in the public health category. Qualifying workshops, approved by the Department, will award Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to attendees. PHPC license holders must earn 16 CEUs in the category of Public Health during their 4 year license period.

At the end of each approved workshop (or workshop session), a Record of Attendance form will be signed by the approved trainer and handed out to PHPC license holders. License holders should make a copy of this form for their records and submit the signed original to the BLE Mosquito Control Section immediately. License holders are responsible for keeping track of their CEUs (and all other responsibilities under Chapter 5E-13). CEUs will *not* be recorded for attendees who have not submitted such a form. CEUs will also *not* be recorded for training taken prior to license issuance.

License Renewal: A renewal PHPC license will be sent automatically to license holders who have completed at least 16 CEUs during their 4

year license period. Failure to do so will result in inactivation of the license. Failure to earn 16 CEUs will result in expiration of the license; our office may not necessarily send a reminder to those license holders who have not earned enough CEUs.

Public Health Aerial License

All persons conducting public health arthropod control by air must obtain a Public Health (PH) Aerial license. In order to obtain the PH Aerial license, applicants must obtain the PHPC license and pass a third examination, the Aerial exam. All exams may be taken at local county extension offices, at regional workshops, or at the BEPC office by appointment. The *Aerial Application* study packet may be purchased from UF/IFAS Education Resources or the FMCA. Issued PH Aerial licenses are valid only as long as the PHPC license also remains valid (see above requirements for PHPC). Renewals are sent together with the PHPC renewals. Prior to issuance of the PHPC Aerial license, a valid copy of the license holder's Pilot's License must be submitted to the Department.

DACS Public Health Director Certification

Certification Requirements: This certification is not necessary for anyone other than applicants who wish to become director of a county or district mosquito control program. Individuals applying for a position as director must provide to their prospective employer a valid DACS Director's Certificate. If this certification is not obtained prior to appointment, a grace period of 6 months is allowed by the Department. If by that time the certification has not been obtained, the program will fall into noncompliance and may lose state approved status.

Examination: To obtain the certification, applicants must pass the DACS Director Examination with a score of 70% or better. Applicants must hold a valid PHPC license and obtain prior approval through our office before taking the exam. The certificate is valid, provided the PHPC license is also kept valid.

The Director's exam may not be taken more than three times in a 6 month period. Study materials for this exam are the *Florida Mosquito Control Handbook* (available for purchase through the FMCA), F.S. Chapter 388,

and Chapter 5E- 13 F.A.C. Please contact our office directly for more information regarding director qualification requirements.

Printed Resources Available from Our Office:

- Public Health Pest Control Manual -- study manual for the PHPC license
- Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licensing in Florida - manual
- Chapter 5E-13 F.A.C.
- F.S. Chapter 388

Other Helpful Resources:

- www.freshfromflorida.com - CEU Class Search, important meeting announcements, the BLE homepage, the Mosquito Control Directory, pesticide usage reports, and other useful information.
- www.floridamosquito.org - the FMCA homepage
- <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/index.shtml> - UF/IFAS County Extension Office listing